

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 5, 2007.

Sarah C. Carranceja
Sarah C. Carranceja

Applicant	: Xian Yao, et al.	Confirmation No. 5454
Application No.	: 10/731,710	
Filed	: December 9, 2003	
Title	: METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE SINTERING CELL	
Grp./Div.	: 1742	
Examiner	: Weiping Zhu	
Docket No.	: 50547/M277	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
April 5, 2007

Commissioner:

Enclosed is an amendment to the above-identified application.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Paid For	Number Extra Claims	Small Entity Rate	Large Entity Rate	FEE
Total Claims Fee	34	*34	0	x \$25.00	0 x \$50.00	0.00
Independent Claims	4	** 4	0	x \$100.00	0 x \$200.00	0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims ***				\$180.00	\$360.00	0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE						0.00
NO ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED	IF NO FEE REQUIRED, INSERT "0"					0.00
LIST INDEPENDENT CLAIMS: 1, 21, 23, 34						

Amendment Transmittal Letter
Application No. 10/731,710

* IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 20 OR LESS, WRITE "20" IN COLUMN 3
** IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 3 OR LESS, WRITE "3" IN COLUMN 3
*** PAY THIS FEE ONLY WHEN MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS ARE ADDED FOR THE FIRST
TIME

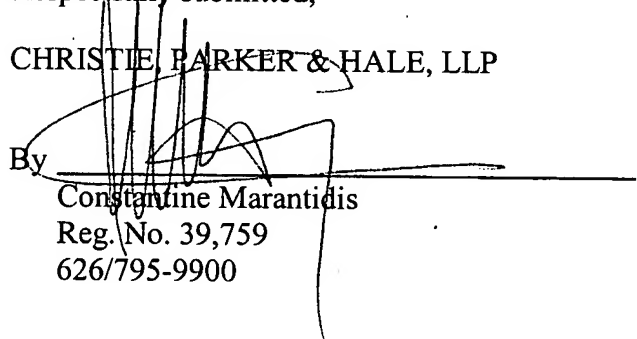
_____ Attached is our check for \$ to pay the fees calculated above.
_____ A Petition for Extension of Time and the required fee are enclosed.
_____ Other enclosures:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by or to give effect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account. **A copy of this letter is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE PARKER & HALE, LLP

By


Constantine Marantidis
Reg. No. 39,759
626/795-9900

CM/scc

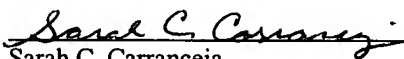
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Title : METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS
USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE SINTERING
CELL

TC/A.U. : 1742
Examiner : Weiping Zhu

Docket No. : 50547/M277
Customer No. : 23363

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
April 5, 2007

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action of mailed on January 5, 2007, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.